Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MEXICO 09619 101256Z ACTION ABF-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 DOE-15 SOE-02 /037 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0761

CONFIDENTIAL MEXICO 09619

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ENRG, MX

SUBJECT: PROPOSED GAO VISIT

REF: STATE 144453

- 1. I STRONGLY OPPOSE GAO VISIT TO MEXICO AT TIME PROPOSED REFTEL. GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT TALKS REGARDING NATURAL GAS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS ARE ABOUT TO RESUME. THESE TALKS AND COMPANY-TO-COMPANY NEGOTIATIONS MUST BE CARRIED OUT IN LEAST OBTRUSIVE MANNER POSSIBLE IF FLEXIBILITY ON BOTH SIDES IS TO BE MAINTAINED AND A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT IS TO BE REACHED. ANY EXTRAORDINARY USG PRESENCE SUCH AS WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY GAO TEAM DOING STUDY AS PROPOSED DURING NEGOTIATIONS COULD EITHER COMPLICATE OR DELAY THEM OR RESULT IN THEIR FAILURE ON GROUNDS OF FOREIGN PRESSURE OR INTERVENTION.
- 2. WHILE A GAO VISIT MIGHT POSSIBLY BE ARRANGED AFTER COMPLETION OF A NATURAL GAS CONTRACT, THIS ISSUE CAN ONLY BE ADDRESSED AT A LATER DATE. BUT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, PRESENCE OF A GAO TEAM STUDYING MEXICAN ENERGY IS LIKELY TO BE POLITICALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO GOM. MEXICAN GOVERNMENTAL AND PUBLIC SENSITIVITY ON PETROLEUM QUESTIONS CANNOT BE OVERESTIMATED. LUCEY

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: NATURAL GAS, ENERGY, VISITS, NEGOTIATIONS, CONTRACTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS

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